

Message Text

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TO USLO PEKING

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TAGS:PFOR,XE, CH

SUBJ: NOMINATION PRESS SUMMARY - NOVEMBER 11, 1975

STARTING TODAY, WE WILL BE REPORTING, TO PEKING ONLY,
COMMENT ON BUSH CIA NOMINATION.

1. REUTER REPORTS CHURCH, IN "UNUSUALLY STRONG" ATTACK
ON BUSH NOMINATION TUESDAY, URGED SENATE REJECT IT,
SAYING APPOINTMENT WOULD POLITICIZE CIA, COMPROMISE ITS
TRADITIONAL INDEPENDENCE, REDUCE ITS EFFECTIVENESS.
TERMED NOMINATION "ASTONISHING"; IF CIA ASSESSMENTS
SHOULD COLLIDE WITH FAVORITE COURSE OF ACTION AT WH,
QUESTIONED WHETHER BUSH WOULD BE ABLE STAND UP TO PRESSURES
FROM GOP PRES IN ELECTION YEAR. CHURCH JOINED BY
HUDDLESTON, WHO SAID HE WAS CONCERNED OVER COLBY OUSTER
AND APPOINTMENT OF MAN "WHO HAS SERVED IN A POLITICAL
OFFICE."

2. TERHORST (NYDN 11/8) FEELS PRES FORD'S "SUNDAY
MASSACRE" HAS BACKFIRED. SUGGESTS FROM NOW ON, HAK
MUST SHARE PRES' TIME WITH RUMSFELD AND WITH BUSH,
WHO--IF HE CAN HANDLE IT--COULD BECOME SENIOR FORD ADVISER
ON ALL INTELLIGENCE-GATHERING OPERATIONS. HOLDS THAT
WITH BUSH, RUMSFELD, RICHARDSON, PRES HAS INSTALLED
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"THREE POLITICALLY AMBITIOUS MEN" IN CABINET-LEVEL POSITIONS, EACH INTERESTED IN BECOMING FORD RUNNING MATE NEXT YEAR AND, EVENTUALLY, SEEKING PRESIDENCY. SAYS KEEPING THEIR RIVALRIES IN CHECK WILL BE ONLY PART OF FORD'S PROBLEM; POTENTIALLY MORE SERIOUS FOR COUNTRY IS WHETHER HE IS GOING PERMIT PARTISAN POLITICS DOMINATE DECISION-MAKING AT CIA, DOD--WHETHER HE IS QUARTERBACK OR CENTER.

3. PHILA BULLETIN'S O'ROURKE (11/7) NOTES SOME "SERIOUS PEOPLE" QUESTION BUSH, RUMSFELD READINESS OPERATE IN NEW JOBS UNDER PRESSING CIRCUMSTANCES; BUT NOTHING TESTS JUDGMENT SO MUCH AS ITS EXERCISE UNDER CRISIS. COUNTRY MUST HOPE BUSH, RUMSFELD BIG ENOUGH FOR JOB. THEY HAVE GOVT TO OPERATE FOR AT LEAST ANOTHER YEAR, AND COUNTRY ENTITLED TO COMPETENCE, EVEN THOUGH PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION YEAR.

4. WSTAR'S MCGRORY(11/10) CITES ONE THEORY THAT BUSH NAMED TO CIA BECAUSE PEKING, SUPPOSEDLY, WOULD BE SOOTHED BY PRESENCE "ONE OF FORD'S GUYS" IN SECRET AGENCY, KNOWING, ACCORDING THIS THEORY, HE WOULD GIVE PROPER SLANT TO HIS ANALYSIS OF INCOMING INTELLIGENCE. CONTENTS NAMING OF BUSH "HAS SENT THE DEMORALIZED SPOOKS INTO NEW FURIES. HE IS A PLEASANT MAN, WHOSE LIFE HAS BEEN DEVOTED TO THE PRACTICE OF PARTISAN REPUBLICAN POLITICS." FACT PRES "OFFERED HIM AS A VICE PRESIDENTIAL PROSPECT MAKES IT EVEN MORE GALLING" TO CIA AGENTS. INGERSOLL

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